Secrt. II-27—150,000—

(1935-45) Departme

SERIES.

G.O. No. 215

Dated

[Despatch Abstract.]

LEG. ASSEMBLY QUESTION : THREAT OF DIRECT ACTION BY THE M.
OF SECRETRIAT SERVICE : PAPERS RECORDED.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Madras Legislative Assembly held on the 31st October 1947 - Starred Question No. 804.

Threat of direct action by Non-Gazetted Officers.

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Non-Gazetted Officers of the Secretariat Service are going to stage a direct action at an early date:

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN (on behalf of Hon. the Premier). "The Secretariat Association have indicated their intention to take "direction action." But the Government are not aware whether they are actually going to stage "direct action."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKTESWARLU: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received any representation from the Secretariat Association regarding their grievances, and if so, what action have bhey taken?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: I have already said more than once in public that I do not believe in trade unions among Government servants, because Government are in a different position from a private employer. If direct action is taken, Government will know what to do in the matter.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: May I then ask, Sir, what these Government servants are to do get their grievances redressed?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: They have got the usual official courses through which they can make their representations.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: After having resorted to all those resources if they find that they are not able to get their grievances redressed, t hen what are they to do, Sir.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: The hon. Member is aware as I am that the Government did go into the question of the pay of these officials and came to their conclusions, and increased their pay. If these people are not satisfied with the usual channels of communicating their representations, hon. Members here are only making the position of the Government worse by taking this line of action, when the question is in a very critical stage indeed.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: On a point of personal explanation, Sir, We are not at all here for making the situation more critical. Our desire is to help the Government and the public in this matter and we do not want to have anything untoward in connection with t his affair. That is the reason for our putting this question, Sir, and we want to know from the Government whether they can pull on with the Government servants who have got reasons to be discontented?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: I can assure the hon. Member that the Government know what to do when such action is threatened. I am not prepared to take the question any further today.

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Sir, are not such threats contrary to the conduct rules of Government servants, and therefore, should not be the Government take stringent measures to put them down?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: Sir, I have told hon. Members already that I would far rather let the Government take the necessary action when such an occasion arises, and therefore as I have already said, I would request hon. Members not to press and make the situation worse.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIN BAHADUR: I want to know whether the Government think that the public have no concern at all in this matter.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN : I would like to point out to the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition that the Government is a very

delicate instruement, and questions like this make that delicacy more difficult still. That is why I requested hon. Members not to press this question any further with supplementary questions. But if they choose to do otherwise, I shall have to say that I have no further answer to give.

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: As the answer given to the question is not satisfactory, I request you, Sir, to allow a half an hour debate on this to-day, because the Hon. the Leader of the House has, in reply to the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, said that he will have to say that he has no further answer to give. Hence I request you to allow a half an hour debate.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. the Leader of the House has already told us that the question was very delicate. He wants me, and he has already requeste the Hon. Members not to put supplementary questions. It is our duty to help Government at this juncture. He has also said that the situation is critical.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: Sir, I want to make it clear that the public also have got some concern. They know that the Government is an instrument for their welfare. They are, therefore, for supporting the Government. But, in supporting the Government, they want to have the position clearly placed before them. They want to know whether the position of the Government servants is one that is to be sympathized with or one that is to be condemened. Therefore, the public must know what is really the position; whether the Government servants are in the right of wrong, so that they may give their sympathy or withhold their sympathy to their cause. It is very important from the point of view of the Government also for the public to know the real situation so that they may also advice these Government servants according to the situation."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: I am thankful to the hon. Member for his long speech, but I have no answer to give.

SRI K. ANANDAN NAMBIYAR: On a point of information, Sir. The Hon. the Minister has said that the matter is very delicate. We want to know how it is delicate, and in what way it is delicate. The mere fact of delicacy does not carry us anywhere.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBAYAN: I have no further answer to give, Sir.

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: May I enquire, Sir, of the Leader of the House, whether, if he says that the Government machinery is a delicate mechanism, it is not a fact that Government servants sre leading delicate lives, and therefore his matter deserves consideration on the floor of this House (Laughter)

(There was no answer)

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: The Hon. the Leader of the House has told that he has nothing more to add. But, as it stands, nearly 155,000 Government servants are affected, and if any direct action is to be resorted to, the Hon. Minister has told us that he knows what to do. In these circumstances, I request you, Sir, to allow a half an hour debate. This is a very important matter and the whole public is awaiting the opinion of this House, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. I am not going to allow a half an hour debate on this.

SRI S. NAGAPPA: May I ask, Sir, what prevents the Government from adopting the Central Pay Commission's recommendations.

(There was no answer.)

PUBLIC (GENERAL-B) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the printed proceedings of the Assembly at pp 9-13 c.f. No further action i s called for. The papers may be recorded in a G.O. for future guidance.

xx/29.1.1948

G.O. (Ms) No. 215 Pub.(Gen.B) dated 29th January 1948

Abstract

**

LEG. ASSEMBLY QUESTION - Threat of direct action by Non-Gazetted Government Officers of the Secretariat Service - Papers - Recorded.

/True copy/

R. Thiagarajan 21.1.54

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office, Egmore.